

I must mention Billy , he was a cart horse that made deliveries around Eccles , all the kids patted him , he was so patient as he stood around John William street , at the side of Woolworths . While his cart was unloaded.

I believe Mr Walker , who lived in Albert Road was a driver for the Royal Train . there were occasions when the Train stayed over night in the Eccles Siding

Sadly ,not all memories of the Station are pleasant ones,

It was a dark , cold, foggy Winter morning, between Christmas and New Year
Thursday 30th December 1941

I was awakened by someone banging on our door and loud voices . then the sound of running feet. Mam came upstairs and told me there had been a train crash at the Station. My Dad who was in the Civil Defence and had experience in Heavy Rescue work and First Aid had been called out to help

It was late afternoon before Dad returned., the look on his face was enough .

All he said then was 'it's a bad do' .

A west bound train, had passed the signals , at the points it had crashed into the east bound commuter train carrying workers into Manchester. Sadly so many of the passengers were young people going into the shops and offices

It was dark , it was foggy, it was a tragedy.

Medical staff from the local hospitals , Hope , Eccles and Patricroft , Ladywell, Salford Royal , doctors and nurses , the Civil defence, Firemen , Police all worked at the scene. It was into the afternoon before everyone was accounted for

Twenty three people lost their lives and fifty-seven were injured.

Eccles Station bore a scar , maybe it still does, along the banking where one of the engines had come to rest

It was in 1971 that Eccles Station was set on fire and burned down , sadly it has never been rebuilt. It was a wonderful piece of our history that has been lost to us.

Eccles needs friends and I would like to thank the members of Freccles for the work they have undertaken and congratulate them

Audrey Beecall